

Dear Sir or Madam:

I write to protest the change of the Federal Rule regarding the use of cellular telephones on airplanes. I am against the changing of this rule as I believe the use of cellular telephones would be distracting, dangerous to airline staff in an emergency, and a public nuisance.

In an emergency situation airline passengers would be distracted from paying attention to directions from airline staff by making personal telephone calls. Airline staff already have trouble holding the attention of passengers to read emergency instructions before take-off. Should a situation arise where calmness needs to be enforced, the potential threat of hysterical phone calls to loved ones by passengers would spread panic on the plane, as well as distract passengers from listening to much needed information.

Mobile phones are a public nuisance. People are loud, have pointless lengthy conversations in public and disturb the peace and quiet enjoyment of those around them. As it is physically impossible to have different carriages (as on trains), there is no way to limit public telephone usage to certain areas of the plane without having it disturb the entire cabin. This is akin to smoking on a plane.

Please do not change 46 CFR 22.

Sincerely,

Andrea Parsons